THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The requisite information is as under:

(i) *Proposals for declaration of new National Highways:*

Nine proposals were furnished by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, Kurnool-Chittoor Road traversing through Nandyal-Cuddapah aggregating 369 Km. has been included in the National Highway grid in January, 1993.

(ii) *Proposals for National Highways works:*

Nine proposals in respect of National Highways (Roads and Bridges) are at various stages of consideration clearance.

(iii) *Proposals sponsored under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes:—*

(a) *Centrally-Aided Programme of State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance:*

It has not been possible to approve any of the schemes so far mainly for want of funds under this scheme.

(b) *Purchase of Pollution checking equipment:*

The reference of the State Government for the purchase of above equipment is being processed at present.

(iv) *Proposals under Central Road Fund:*

Out of 401 proposals costing Rs. 289.27 crores received from State during different interval of time, 5 schemes have been accommodated in the afore-said programme against the likely accruals available upto 31st March, 1997 as per old Resolution.

Request for declaration of National High-ways in Madhya Pradesh

844. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/norms laid down for declaration of State Highway as national highway;

(b) the reasons for not declaring any State Road in Madhya Pradesh as National Highway since 30th November 1984;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has made repeated requests in 1989,1990 and 1991 for declaring N.H. Roads in the States which have been left out so far;

(d) if so, whether the road fulfils the criteria laid down therefor; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not declaring this road as National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The criteria are as under, *viz.*

(i) Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.

(ii) Roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iii) Roads connecting State Capitals;

(iv) Roads connecting major Ports and important industrial or tourist centres;

(v) Roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) Roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length; and

(vii) Roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economics thereby.

(b) to (e) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had been representing from time to time for declaration of certain State Roads as new National Highways. Consequently, Nizamabad-Jagadalpur Road covering a length of about 210 km in Madhya Pradesh was declared as National Highway in February, 1989. Even though the remaining proposed roads may be fulfilling the criteria laid down for the purpose, it has not been possible to make further additions to the National Highway network in Madhya Pradesh on account of financial constraints and other priority considerations. This position still holds good.